Banning use of electronic gadgets

6865. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to ban the use of electronic gadgets which can inadvertently plunge planes into danger as per aviation experts;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in "The Asian Age" under the caption, "Laptops, stereos can cause an Air crash"; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) There is already a ban on such electronic gadgets which can cause security risk to the aircraft. As regards electromagnetic interference of other electronic gadgets on aircraft performance, the Director General of Civil Aviation follows the recommendations of the aircraft designers/type certifying authorities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The existing instructions are being implemented meticulously.

Development of historical places in Gujarat

6866. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the historical places in Gujarat are required to be developed and beautified to make them more attractive for tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what steps are being taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government had conducted any survey to identify the historical places in that States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Identification, development and beautification of places of tourist interest are the responsibilities of the State Government. The Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance to the State Governments on the basis of the specific proposals received from them, depending upon their merits, inter-se priorities and availability of funds.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Tourist's complaints of excess hotel and taxi charges

6867. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many tourists after visiting Himachal Pradesh have complained of excessive hotel and taxi charges and lack of infrastructural facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken or are being taken to remove these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) No, Sir Development of tourism infrastructure is primary responsibility of the State Government. The Central Goverment extends financial assistance to State Governments on specific scheme for development of tourism infrastructure.